HER MISTAKEN OPINION

By EFFIE W. MERRIMAN

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Russell Maynard sat in his office chair, his elbows on his desk, his curly head supported by both hands and his eyes fixed on a dainty perfumed note spread out before him. He was reading it over and over scarcely taking in the meaning of the words, which he already knew by heart. It had been brought to him with the early morning mail, and was in answer to one which he had slipped into Miriam Grant's hand the night before, when he helped her into her carriage after Mrs. Lee's party, and it was now nearly noon; yet that letter was the only one he had opened.

You can never know, dear friend, what pain it gives me to write this," the words seemed to be traced in delicate lines of fire which were burning themselves into his brain, "for until I read your note ask-ing me to be your wife, I did not reat; ize how selfish I have been in striving to hold the friendship which has become to dear to me. I know that I have a Zeeper regard for you than for any other man of my acquaintance, but I do not love you. For hours I have tried to per-suade myself that I do, but I cannot. I should be false to my womanhood were I should be false to my womanhood were I lo say anything else, and I should do you & cruel wrong were I to marry you, for I am not one who could make a man happy unless I could look up to him as being

greater than myself.

"Russell, I wish we might still be lriends; life will be very dull without rour friendship (I know just how selfish I must appear), but if you cannot come is you have always come, without foster ng the hope that we may be more nearly selated, it will be better for us to see very Ittle of each other. I am quite sure, dear friend, that I have read my heart cor-tectly. Your sincere friend, "MIRIAM GRANT."

"She means just what she says," !hought poor Russell. "Miriam is not the sort of girl to play with a fellow's heart. She has thought this all out, and she cried-there are traces of lears on the paper. Oh, Mirlam, Mirtam! why couldn't you have loved me?" The strong man laid his forehead on the letter and his frame shook convulsively. A little hand was laid



Do Not Mean to Propose," sweren Mirlam.

timidly on his arm, and he started nervously, for he had thought he was

"I've comed," said a soft voice in his ears

Russell raised his head; his face was so white and drawn that the ragged little mite of humanity standing before him stared at him for a moment, half afraid. "Well," said Russell, wearily, "what

do you want?"

At the sound of his voice the boy lost his momentary fear, and his dirty face became beautiful with the great happiness which shone from the big brown eyes.

"I've comed ter live with yer. Don't yer member 'bout my bein' yer boy?" "To live with me! My boy! What in thunder do wou mean?"

Russell spoke petulantly. He loved children, and usually had a kind word for the most unpromising specimen of childhood; but to-day he was not in a mood to make himself agreeable, or to exercise patience.

'Yer said," the little waif cleared his throat and tried to force back the tears which were fast filling his eyes: "yer said as how I could live with yer an' be yer boy when gran'ther didn't want me no more." By this time the little body trembled so violently that the child dropped down on Russell's

"Ter-day they put gran'ther in a hole in the ground. They telled me as how he can't never git out, an' I must go to the poorhouse; but yer saidyer telled me I could be yer boy, so I comed right here."

Russell did not answer. He was staring in perplexity at his strange guest, and trying to recall the conversation to which he alluded.

"I guess yer don't 'member," said the little fellow, sadly. "But yer said it, an' then yer buyed apples o' gran'-

"Oh! Was it your grandfather who

sold apples to me?"

"Uh-huh!" "and he is dead?"

"The doctor said as how he was dead as a doornail, an'-an' he never said nothin' ter me when I telled him

as how I was hungry." The boy was crying now in a silent way that went straight to Russell's

"Why not?" he thought. "It will give me something to occupy my mind. It may keep me from making quite a fool of myself. I have never had a great amount of respect for the men who die of unrequited affection," and he smiled sarcastically.

"Be yer goin' ter take me ter the poorhouse?"

"Not if you are a good boy. We're going to hunt up a new suit of clothes, as soon as I write a letter. Don't you think you could wash a little of the dirt from your face if I should show you where to find water?"

He led the way to the tollet room,

then returned to his desk. "Dear Miss Grant,' he wrote. "We shall still be friends, but I cannot meet you on the old footing just yet, and so do not wonder if you do not see me for a little It is hard to bear-harder even while. It is hard to bear-harder even than I thought it would be. If you never marry until you find someone nobler than yourself, I shall certainly not be obliged to bear the added burden of jealousy.

"Yours, etc "RUSSELL J. MAYNARD."

"It isn't at all satisfactory," said Russell, as he folded the note and put it into an envelope, "but I could do no better if I racked my brains for a week."

Nearly three months had passed and he had not yet summoned courage to visit Miriam Grant. She had spent part of the time with an old friend in a neighboring state, and since her return he had planned several times to call on her, but never felt himself quite strong enough to do so.

"I don't want to make a fool of myself," he thought. "It has never been my ambition to marry a wife who did not love me. If she can't, she can't, and I shall not beg for what is not given freely; but, oh, Miriam, if

He stopped suddenly and began romp with Dick.

"I found a lovely lady to-day, uncle," said Dick, finally.

"Where did you find her?"

"She rang the bell, and Mrs. Wilson was busy, so I opened the door. She said you must bring me to see her some day, and I said 'thank you; uncle will be pleased to.' Did I do it right?" "Quite right," answered Russell, laughing. "You are learning very

"I told her perhaps we would come to-night, and she said she should ex-

pect us; then she went home without seeing Mrs. Wilson at all." "I don't know about allowing you

to make engagements for me, young man," answered Russell, carelessly, as he took up the evening paper and settled himself comfortably.

"Can't we go just a few minutes?" pleaded Dic. "She was so pretty and so good, and I love her just awful."

"Mercy on me! Has it come to that so soon? What is the lady's name, may I ask?"

"Miss Grant. She said you knew where she lived."

"Miss-ahem-yes, I know! What did she say about my-your going to see her?"

Dick repeated the conversation, and was rewarded by being told that he might go to call on the pretty lady, and soon he was seated in a chair very close to her side, busily engaged with a picture book.

"How did you happen to do it?" asked Miriam of Russell, with a glance at the boy.

"I don't know, I'm sure," he answered, with a smile. "I had to make a fool of myself in some way, I think. My friends tell me that I couldn't have succeeded better."

"You haven't added to your reputation as a man of common sense and good judgment," answered Miriam, with a laugh.

"I am kept well posted in that direction; but really-I suppose you'd laugh at me for saying so-but the little chap makes such things quite easy to bear.

"Russell, why haven't you been to see me before? I felt hurt to think that I should be the last of all your friends to learn of your new acquisi-

"I haven't treated you fairly, but I -well, to tell the truth, I haven't yet arrived at the stage where I am willing to meet you simply as a friend."

'I am glad of it.'

"What do you mean? Miriam-" Russell hesitated, and his face became a shade paler. He did not want to make a fool of himself a second time, he thought, and he had been very sure that Miriam Grant returned his love.

"I do not mean to propose," answer ed Miriam, with blushing cheeks and laughing eyes, "but I have no objection to confessing that-"

"Confessing what?" Russell had her in his arms, and Dick was staring wide-eyed on such a scene as he had never before witnessed.

"That I was mistaken in you. thought you an easy-going individual without much purpose, one who would be easily swayed by public opinion, and such a man, though very pleasant as an acquaintance, was not my ideal as a husband."

Russell and Mirias have been married several years, and Dick still lives with them. People who predicted allsorts of trouble now say that they are the oddest couple that ever lived, and it is fortunate that they married each other, for neither would have been happy with any one else, or made any one else happy.



COWBANE.

Description of a Plant That Grows in Wet Places and Is Poisonous.

Along the sloughs and in wet places on many farms in the west may be found a weed from two to five feet high, with an umbrella-like blossom and with the stems streaked with purple. This is the spotted cowbane or water hemlock, sometimes mistakenly called wild parsnip. On examining the roots there will be found a number of tubers close together, some of them similar in shape to a cow's horn. An



Cowbane Plant and Roots.

examination of the root will distin guish it from wild parsnip and wild carrot, both of which it somewhat resembles in its habit of growth.

It is a poisonous weed, particularly dangerous to children in the spring of the year, who may chance upon the roots, and also dangerous to live stock, says Farm Life. Hence it should not be tolerated a minute on any farm. It is not worth while to cut this weed down. It should be dug up by the roots, and the roots cared for in such a way that there is no danger of either children or live stock getting hold of them. A few hours' work will clean up any farm that is infested with this weed, and it should be done without delay.

CORN SMUT.

Prof. A. M. Teneyck Explains Why It Is Useless to Treat the Seed.

Smut in corn it not reproduced from year to year by spores which adhere to the corn kernels, as is the case with wheat and other small grains. The corn plant is infected with smut above the ground by means of spores or sporidia, which are brought in contact with the young growing parts of the plant by the aid of the wind, rain and dew. These sporidia are developed upon decaying organic matter in the soil of the field, growing somewhat after the manner of the veast fungus. The infection with smut may take place quite early in the season; forming a mass of spores which appear as the smut balls on the cornstalks and leaves. These quickly dry and the spores, blowing about, produce new infections, causing a second growth and fruitage of the fungus. It appears that bruises on the stalks, such as occur by detasseling, favor the infection with smut.

You will thus see that it is useless to treat the seed. There is practically no remedy for this disease other than to pick the smut balls and burn them, and this will not prevent the occurence of smut in any field, since the spores may be carried by the wind from surrounding fields. However, it may be possible to reduce the attacks of smut to some extent by picking and burning the smut balls, since if little smut is present in the soil where the corn is planted the opportunity for infection is lessened. It is stated, also, that manure favors the development of smut, since it offers an abundance of favorable material upon which the smut may grow and develop the sporidia which cause the first infection of the corn plants.

THE SPARROW PEST.

The Farm Journal Tells of Peter Tumble-Down's Way of Dealing With It.

There are various ways of dealing with the sparrow pest, some good, some bad, but Peter's way is at least very unique and quite effective. Last fall he dilly-dallied with corn husking until caught by a big snow storm. This was soon followed by a thaw and then a freeze up, so that half of the crop was left out all winter for crow bait. The crows took advantage of the situation and spent the winter in the orchards and woods near-by, taking breakfast, dinner and supper at Peter's expense and inviting all their relations to the feast. Thus coming to feel at home in the neighborhood, in the spring many of them set up housekeeping and began to raise familles. So after the new spring corn had sprouted and showed above the surface, each mother and father crow got busy and became a nulsance in the neighborhood. Peter had to replant twice and some of the neighbors four times. That's not all: the little baby crows seemed to need a meat diet, and to supply this want, all the nests of other birds, including sparrows, were rifled by the parent crows; and thus the sparrow pest was conquered for once. Of course the plan was hard on the song birds, for the crows did not discriminate in favor of meat. Peter will not take out a patent on this plan, and all his neighbors hope he will not try it again.

FRUITING OF CUCUMBERS.

Why It is That Often but Little Fruit Sets on the Vines.

Not a few people are puzzled by the behavior of cucumber vines in the gardens and complain that although the vines are blossoming full, little or no fruit sets. A number of inquirles of this nature have already been received at the Colorado Agricultural college experiment station this year.

The reason for this, writes W. Paddock, is as follows: There are two kinds of blossoms upon the cucumber vines, as well as upon a number of other plants of similar nature. The first blossom to set, and by far the most numerous throughout the life of the plant, are what are known as male flowers. These are imperfect in their makeup, for the reason that they lack the pistil, or that part from which the fruit and seed are formed, but it bears an abundance of pollen which is necessary to the development of the pistil of the pistillate flowers.

The other, or pistillate flowers, sometimes called the female blossoms, are produced later in the season and are also imperfect, for the reason that they usually lack stamens, but are provided with a pistil. The pistillate flowers can readily be told, because there is a miniature cucumber at its base, even before the bud has opened.

Now, in order to produce fruit, it s necessary for pollen from the staminate blossoms to be transferred to the pistil of the other class of flowers. When grown in the green house, the work of pollination must be done by hand, but out of doors, there are always insect visitors enough to perform this important work. In fact, this is one of nature's provisions by which cross-fertilization of plants is effected. Insects of many and various kinds visit from blossom to blossom and as they go to the staminate flowers their bodies become dusted with the pollen; then as they chance to visit a pistillate flower, some of the pollen is bound to be left upon the receptive surface of the pistil. This in plants is known as pollination.

The pollen grains have the power of germination much like a grain of corn. The end of the pistil is moist so that the grains soon terminate and the germ tube finds its way down through the pistil to the 1mmature seed which it enters and gives up a portion of its protoplasm. This process is known as fertilization.

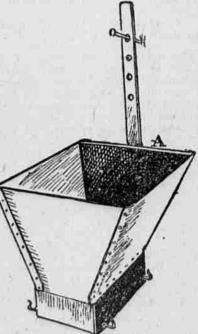
As a rule it may be stated that no fruit of any kind can be produced without this process of pollination and fertilization. Fertilization incites the immature seeds into growth, and this, of course, causes the parts which surround them, as in the case of cucumbers, to grow, and the result is what we recognize as the matured fruit, which in this case is not strictly

Certain conditions which are not well understood seem to keep the paint producing staminate blossoms at the expense of early fruit production. But in a general way, we cannot materially hasten the formation of pistillate blossoms. We should see to it, therefore, that the plants are kept in a vigorous growing condition by planting them, first of all, in good garden soil, and seeing that they are supplied with an abundance of moist. the bud-the blossoms open, close by ure at all times.

GRAIN OR CORN SACKER.

Serviceable Affair Made Out of Odds and Ends of Material.

The hopper shown in the illustration was made with pieces of tin from an old self-binder, riveted together for the sides and front, and nailed to the



Device for Holding Grain Sack.

back which is of wood. Around the bottom I used board strips three inches wide to make a box 6x8 inches

Small hooks with screw ends were fastened in the corners on which to hang the sack. A piece of three-inch stuff three feet long was bolted to the back of the hopper with several inch holes in the top.

The hopper was then hung upon a spike driven into a post beside the bin. With this contrivance, writes a correspondent in Prairie Farmer, I can fill sacks as fast as one man can tie them.

Look to the Gutters. Now that the leaves are falling.

ion't forget to see that the gutters id leaders of the house or barn are ar. The leaves fall very quietly d sometimes may not be thought until a heavy rain causes the water ω back up under the eaves or pour over the side of the gutters.

SAID TO BE SIMPLE

EASILY MIXED RECIPE FOR KID-NEYS AND BLADDER.

Tells Readers How to Prepare This Home-Made Mixture to Cure the Kidneys and Bladder and Rheumatism.

Get from any prescription pharmacist the following:

Fluid Extract Dandellon, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three

Shake well in a bottle and take a teaspoonful dose after each meal and at bedtime.

The above is considered by an eminent authority, who writes in a New York daily paper, as the finest prescription ever written to relieve Backache, Kidney Trouble, Weak Bladder and all forms of Urinary difficulties. This mixture acts promptly on the eliminative tissues of the Kidneys, enabling them to filter and strain the uric acid and other waste matter from the blood which causes Rheumatism.

Some persons who suffer with the afflictions may not feel inclined to place much confidence in this simple mixture, yet those who have tried it say the results are simply surprising, the relief being effected without the slightest injury to the stomach or other organs.

Mix some and give it a trial. It certainly comes highly recommended. It is the prescription of an eminent authority, whose entire reputation, it is said, was established by it.

SURELY HAD PRIZE FLY.

Money Invested in Incubator Was Not All Lost.

Poultney Bigelow, the brilliant author and journalist, said the other day of the chicken farm that he is about to set up at Malden:

"I hope to succeed with this farm. I hope our experiences won't too closely resemble that of my old friend Horatio Rogers. Rash Rogers lived in the suburbs. On the suburban train one morning he said to me with a sour laugh:

"I've got something nobody else has got, Mr. Bigelow.'

"'Have you, Rash?' said I. 'What is it?'

"'Well,' said Rogers, 'I bought a \$50 incubator last month, put \$15 worth of eggs in it, and hatched out a blubottle fly.

"He frowned, then sighed. "'Yes,' he said, 'I've got the only

\$65 bluebottle fly in the world." Remarkable Photography. Photography has caught the fastest express train in motion by means of the cinematograph, and it also shows the growth of a flower. A bud which bursts into bloom in, say, 16 days, is exposed to a camera every 15 minutes during the 16 days, and when the pictures developed from the films are assembled in order in the moving picture machine, the observer may see, to his delight, all in a minvte or two, the gradual breaking of night and reopen in the morning, the leaves grow under the eye, the sta-

mens peep from cover, and, finally, Chiropodist's Prescription.

A lotion and powder for tender and swollen feet: One teaspoonful of boracic acid to one pint of grain alcohol. After bathing the feet in lukewarm water, spray them with the lotion used in an atomizer, and fan until dry. The effect is delightful. Then rub over the foot this powder, or put it in the stocking:

Powdered starch, 35 grains, oil of bergamot, ten drops; oil of lavender, 6 drops; oil of wintergreen, 16 drops. Mix well, and pass through a sleve. Excellent.-National Magazine.

The Necessary Evil.

"I have a friend who says he doesn't eat much through the day," remarked the woman, "but every now and then he takes a little nip to comfort himself. I suppose, for not eating. He says it's very good for a man who is on the shady side of 50 to take little nips of something strengthening through the day."

"You tell him frum me," said the Kentucky colonel, "that when ge gits to be on the shady side of the sixties, it'll ben ot only good fuh him, but it will be absolutely necessary to his existence."

TRANSFORMATIONS.

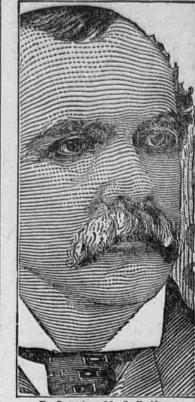
Curious Results When Coffee Drinking Is Abandoned.

It is almost as hard for an old coffee toper to quit the use of coffee as it is for a whisky or tobacco fiend to break off, except that the coffee user can quit coffee and take up Postum without any feeling of a loss of the morning beverage, for when Postum is well boiled and served with eream, it is really better in point of flavor than most of the coffee served nowadays, and to the taste of the connoisseur it is like the flavor of fine, mild Java.

A great transformation takes place in the body within ten days or two weeks after coffee is left off and Postum used, for the reason that the poison to the nerves-caffeine-has been discontinued, and in its place is taken a liquid food that contains the most powerful elements of nourishment.

It is easy to make this test and prove these statements by changing from coffee to Postum. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's

UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM SOUTH CAROLINA PRAISES PE-RU-NA.



Ex-Senator M. C. Butler.

Dyspepsia Is Often Caused By Catarra of the Stomach-Peruna Relieves Catarrh of the Stomach and Is Therefore a Remedy for Dyspepsia.

Hon. M. C. Butler, U. S. Senator from South Carolina for two terms, in a letter from Washington, D. C., writes to the Peruna Medicine Co., as follows:

"I can recommend Peruna for dyspepsia and stomach trouble. I have been using your medicine for a short period and I feel very much relieved. It is indeed a wonderful medicine. besides a good tonic."

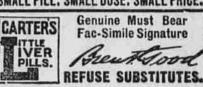
CATARRH of the stomach is the correct name for most cases of dyspepsia. Only an internal catarrh remedy, such as Peruna, is available.

Peruna Tablets can now be procured.

Positively cured by

these Little Pills. They also relieve Dia tress from Dyspepsia, In-digestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect rem-edy for Dizziness, Nau-sea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coat-

ed Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.



New and Liberal Homestead Regulations in

New Districts Now Opened for Settlement



Some of the choicest lands in the grain growing belts of Saskatchewan and Alberta have recently been opened wan and Alberta have recently been opened for settlement under the Revised Homestead. Thous and sof homestead are now available. The new regulations of Canada. Thous and sof homestead of reposting that many in the United States have been waiting for. Any member of a family may make entry for any other member of the family, who may be entitled to make entry for himself or herself. Entry may now be made before the Agent of the District by proxy, on certain conditions by the father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

"Any even numbered section of Dominion

The fee in each case will be \$10.00. Churches, schools and markets convenient. Healthy climate, splendid crops and good laws. Grain-growing and cattle raising principal industries.

For further particulars as to rates, routes, best time to go and where to locate, apply to

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